



September 5, 2021

Rockport United Methodist Church
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Rev. Don Kraps: sparknod@yahoo.com
Rev. Don Kraps Phone: 440-391-9823
Website: www.rockportumc.org

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

10:00 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (People's response in **bold**.)

Leader: Holy ground! We are standing on holy ground.

People: For where God is, the ground is holy.

Leader: Holy hands! God works through our hands,

People: so they are holy.

Leader: Holy words! God speaks through our words,

People: so they become holy.

Leader: Holy thoughts! God moves others through our ideas and dreams,

People: so they are holy.

Leader: Holy songs! God prays in our songs,

People: so they are holy. Therefore let us joyfully sing.

HYMN

“The Voice of God Is Calling”

UMH 436, insert

THE CHILDREN'S TIME TO LEAD US

PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERN

UNISON PRAYER

"Our times are in your hands." We say the words, we sing the words, but we don't hear the words. If we truly embraced them, O God, we would be forced to face the disparity between our actions and the words. Too often we meander aimlessly to do "good works" in your name irrespective of your wishes, your desires and your kingdom plans. Forgive us, O God, for our misplaced ardor. Draw us back to the secret place beneath the shadow of your wings, where you reveal your truth before those who become still and call upon your holy name.

LORD'S PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

“How Great Thou Art”

John Purifoy

Flute: Mickey Hopp Piano: Susan Shick

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 7:24-37 NIV

Jesus Honors a Syrophenician Woman's Faith

24 Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre.[a] He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. 25 In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. 26 The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter. 27 "First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." 28 "Lord," she replied, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." 29 Then he told her, "For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter." 30 She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Jesus Heals a Deaf and Mute Man

31 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.[b] 32 There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. 33 After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. 34 He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). 35 At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. 36 Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. 37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

UMH 454, insert

OFFERTORY

(Place your offering in the treasure chest at the back of the church, mail in your giving or go to the GIVE tab on the website:rockportumc.org)

SERMON

"Eyes Wide Shut"

Rev. Don Kraps

COMMUNION

HYMN

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

UMH 402, insert

UNISON BENEDICTION

"Faith without works is dead." God, as we go forth today, let our works proclaim our faith. Let all that we do -- our work and our rest -- be to the glory of the One who has created us to bear his image. May all that we say and do point to you and be evidence of the hope that we have. We go now, in your name, to bring your hope and truth to everyone we meet this week. Amen.

POSTLUDE

SERVING THE LORD AT ROCKPORT

Pastor
Director of Christian Education/Youth
Lay Leader
Music Director/Organist
Church Office Administrator
Lector
Sound/Video

Rev. Don Kraps
Kira Cimino Holchin
Jim Spallino
Susan Shick
Sara Chapman
Kira Cimino Holchin
Scott Holchin

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, September 6, 2021 - Church office Closed for Labor Day

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 - Church Office Closed

Friday, September 10, 2021 - Church Office Closed

9:45am – Al-Anon

Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021

8:30-9:00am - Early Morning Service

10:00am - Outdoor Worship & Live Streamed

3:30-5:30pm – Youth Group Start Up Family POTLUCK

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Ron, Connie Clyde, The Family of Dan Rosette, Mary Jane Keeler, Vickie Smilanich, Betty Jones, Pearl Biscotti, Dan Rice, Vicki Moenich, Erna Guia, The Family of Nancy Chapman, Keel Arlia, Vicki Moenich, Sara, Barb Michael, Norma Golladay, Joyce, Stan P., Lynn Burriss, Mary Mainwaring, Douglas MacMillan, Bill Bowers, Donny Nally, Katie Patton, Dennis, Jan Tietje and those serving our country!

ROCKPORT UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEW OFFICE HOURS BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER: New office hours will be Tuesdays, 11-4pm, Wednesdays, 10-4pm, and Friday, 10-3pm. Also, Rev. Don's office hours will remain: Tuesdays, 11-1pm and Thursdays, 11-1pm. Rev. Don's contact info. Is: sparknod@yahoo.com, 440-391-9823.

WORSHIP WILL REMAIN OUTDOORS! In leu of the COVID uncertainties and Rockport's beautiful outdoor space we will remain outdoors as long as we can and as long as weather permits. The time will also remain at 10am. Please dress accordingly.

RECOMMENDATIONS: As a reminder, due to the COVID uncertainties with the Delta Variance, and in the spirit of caring for each other (especially the immunocompromised and our unvaccinated kids), Rockport's leadership has prayerfully decided to reinstate that all people, vaccinated or not, wear masks INDOORS and SOCIALLY DISTANCE.

ROCKPORT YOUTH GROUP ALUMNI! Sunday, September 19th – 5 to 7 p.m.

We are gettin' the gang back together! We haven't met since Covid shut us down! FOOD AND FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP! Come and have some dinner together, and conversation. WOOHOO! Can't wait to catch up! Friends are always welcome!

CONFIRMATION AT ROCKPORT 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR: If you have a youth in 7th or 8th grade this school year, please let us know if you are interested in becoming a part of our Confirmation class! There will be a parent and youth meeting sometime in September, and the Confirmation year will kick off in October! Contact Kira or the church office to sign up!